

UNIT 26: SHOE INLET

MANAGEMENT INTENT

State land will be managed to emphasize continued use and development of forestry and mineral resources and to accommodate coastal development needs. Resource transfer facilities have been developed on northwestern Long Island in Kaigani Strait. Support facilities, consisting of a barge ramp and airplane float, are within crucial habitat near the head of Shoe Inlet and are authorized by leases. The road system on Long Island will allow using existing facilities to transfer some additional upland resources as they are developed. For example, if mineral resources near Dova Bay (Unit 27: Long Island) are developed, they could be hauled by road to the Shoe Inlet/Kaigani Strait facilities. Using existing facilities to transfer minerals from the Cleve Bay area should be considered.

Habitat is designated a secondary use in some important fish and wildlife habitat or harvest areas (Hc). This will be considered in siting and managing all activities directly related to shore-attached facilities where there are primary designations for forestry and mining. Appropriate siting or operating stipulations (which may include timing restrictions) will be considered to mitigate negative impacts on the habitat resources and to meet the management intent for this unit. Even where habitat is designated a secondary use in important fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas (Hc), it will be managed as a primary use when reviewing proposals for uses that are not directly related to or necessary for the operation of a shore-attached facility where there is a primary designation of forestry or mining. Important habitat resources include Dungeness crab, shrimp, and waterfowl and seabird concentration areas in Shoe Inlet.

Other important habitat resources are present including anadromous fish streams, extensive productive coastal wetlands, kelp beds, and abundant shellfish. Subsistence shrimp and abalone harvest also take place.

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY USES

Refer to the land use designation maps for primary and secondary uses and for fish and wildlife ratings.

PROHIBITED USES

- Mineral location in mapped crucial fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas.
- Filling state tide and submerged lands for residential purposes.
- Floathomes in mapped crucial fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Refer to Chapter 2 for guidelines common to this and all management units. The following guidelines also apply to this specific unit.

- **Consolidation and Joint Use of Resource Transfer Sites.** If upland mining is developed, mineral and log transfer sites will be consolidated unless having additional sites is determined to be a more feasible and prudent alternative considering impacts to upland and marine fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas.
- **Developed Recreation Facilities in Crucial Habitat and Harvest Areas.** Based on available information, developed recreation facilities are initially determined incompatible within mapped crucial fish and wildlife areas. A specific proposal for a developed recreation facility may be considered for compatibility based on its design or on new habitat information.
- **Anchorage.** Use of anchorages depicted on the land use designation map will not be precluded.

FISH AND WILDLIFE INFORMATION

Three anadromous fish stream outlets are contained in the unit. Touchit Cove is a productive salt chuck area with extensive coastal wetlands. Heron Lagoon is a particularly productive sheltered area.

The tideflats in upper Cleve Bay include coastal wetlands. Cleve Bay has extensive kelp beds. Dives by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service documented abundant shellfish species and a high epifauna species diversity in Cleve Bay. Of five bays surveyed (Elbow, Cleve, Dova, South Shoe, North Shoe), Cleve Bay ranked second highest in quality, while the Shoe Bay complex ranked lowest. Shrimp harvest is reported offshore of the mouth of Cleve Bay.

Abalone subsistence harvest takes place along the outer shores east of Shoe Inlet. There is a purse seine hookoff point in Kaigani Strait near Dead Pine.